

REMARKS

Claims 4-12, 15, 20-31, 36, 38-40 and 53-58 are pending. Claims 1-3, 13, 14, 16-19, 32-35, 37 and 41-52 have been canceled without prejudice.

Process claims 53-57 have been rejoined by the Examiner in the April 7, 2009 Notice of Allowability.

It was noted upon review of the April 7, 2009 Notice of Allowability that there were formatting issues in claims 54-57. Specifically, there were some terms/phrases which were both underlined and contained strike-through markings. As such, Applicants' representative, Garth M. Dahlen, Ph.D., Esq. (#43,575) contacted Supervisory Patent Examiner Callie Shosho to obtain advice on how this should be handled. Ms. Shosho suggested that Applicants file the instant Rule 312 Amendment wherein the subject matter that was indicated as having both underlining and strike-through markings should be enclosed in double square brackets to indicate that this subject matter should be deleted.

As such, no new matter has been added by way of the above-amendment.

In addition, it is noted that the Examiner indicated the wrong claims were allowed on the "Supplemental Notice of Allowability" form dated May 18, 2009. The Examiner indicated that claims 4-12, 15, 20-31, 36, 38-50 and 53-58 are allowed on the Notice of Allowability form. In actuality, claims 4-12, 15, 20-31, 36, 38-40 and 53-58 are allowed. Clarification is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment without withdrawing the application from issue.

In view of the above-Amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Garth M. Dahlen, Reg. No. 43,575, at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By



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